

Governor P B Acharya initiates action for Naga languages/dialects through Bharatavani Project

On an invitation by the Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland, Shri P.B.Acharya a delegation from Central Institute of Indian Language visits Kohima.

Bharatavani Project, under Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru (under Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India) has chalked out an action plan for the development of languages of Nagaland including development of dictionaries, learning materials etc. It was decided that an online learning programme for Tenyidie (Angami) dialect may be commissioned within a year, in collaboration with the University of Nagaland, Kohima Campus.

During his meeting with the CIIL officials and the representatives of various knowledge institutions in Nagaland, the Governor Shri P B Acharya advised that the languages and cultural identities of the Naga people has to be promoted. The language of a person is his first identity. We have to give respect to each. Learning dialect is respecting them. We all are equal in a democratic country INDIA.

The institute is concerned with protection and promotion of Indian Languages and development of such languages as a means of promoting better understanding among different communities and to strengthen emotional and national integration.

The CIIL delegation is in Kohima from 4-6 October (3 days) on the invitation of the Governor comprised of Prof. D G Rao, Director, Shri V V Bhat, Senior Consultant, Dr R Ramamoorthy, Reader and Research Officer, Shri Beluru Sudarshana, Consultant for Bharatavani Project, Dr. Chandan Singh and Dr Hidam Dolen Singh, both Senior Resource Persons for the Bharatavani Project. They reached Dimapur from Mysuru by flight on 4th and will back on 6th October 2016.

The meeting was attended by Prof. D Kuolie, Dr.Pangersenla Walling. Dr.Mimi Kevichusa Ezung, (Department of Tenyidie, School of Humanities and Education, Nagaland University), Mr. Moa Longkumer, Jt Director, Mrs. Khriesenuo Solo, Mrs Akala Kin (State Council of Educational Research and Training -SCERT), Mr. K.T. Thomas, Additional Director (Department of Tourism), Mr Talitemjen, Asst. Director, Mrs Adela, Asst. Director (Department of Art and Culture), Mr. Pollem Tep, Additional Director, School Education, Mr Md Tabrej, Mr. James H K (St Joseph College), Mr. Bijen Kumar (Centre for Naga Tribal Language Studies).

Speaking at the meeting, Hon'ble Governor declared his fullest support for these initiatives by Bharatavani project which will make knowledge about Naga languages available, worldwide through the portal. He suggested to bring in all the knowledge

institutions in Nagaland to develop content materials for Naga languages. He stressed that the Universities should be more active and involved in the development of the younger generation, who should be made aware of our rich and diverse culture.

Bharatavani Project is a portal (URL: www.bharatavani.in) which has been launched to publish knowledge in and about all the Indian languages including most of the languages of North Eastern States. It covers Tenyidie (Angami),Ao, Chakru/Chokri, Chang, Dimasa, Kabui (Rongmei),Khezha,Khiemnungan,Konyak,Liangmei, Lotha,Nocte,Phom, Pochuri,Rengma, Sangtam, Sema, Yimchungre,Zemi/ Zeme in the first phase.

Bharatavani publishes content in six sections, namely Knowledge Section, Textbooks Section, Dictionary Section, Multimedia Section, Language Learning materials Section and Language IT Tools Sections.

Providing available knowledge already created by Government, and publicly funded institutions, Non-Governmental institutions and individuals from all over India, and putting it across for the public usage on a multilingual web portal is the main objective of Bharatavani Project.

It may be recalled that the Governor had launched by video conference Manipuri Online Learning Programme by CIIL recently, during his Mangaluru visit as Chief Guest for 6th Convocation of NITTE University, Mangaluru.

CIIL has offered academic and financial support to language development related projects of Nagaland. CIIL has invited all the knowledge institutions like Universities, Academies, Sahitya Sabhas, Tribal research institutions and individual contributors to support by sharing their publications (books on land and culture, people, multimedia publications, dictionaries, grammar tools, etc.,) to be published on Bharatavani Portal. Bharatavani has already published more than 200 books about Nagaland and other North Eastern States. "Bharatavani" App on Android Smartphone is now the largest multilingual Dictionary in India.

The Hon'ble Governor called upon our linguistic scholars from each tribe to take this golden opportunity to interact with Bharatavani project officers from Mysuru for the full-fledged documentation and codification of our each dialect, with a firm desire to preserve and promote our Mother Tongue. Our mother tongue is our identity. Let us take care of it and give the respect.